

NOMINATIONS PLACED ON THE SECRETARY'S  
DESK

NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC  
ADMINISTRATION

PN1849 NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION nominations (16) beginning DAVID A. SCORE, and ending DEMIAN A. BAILEY, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 8, 2010.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senate will resume legislative session.

NOMINATIONS

Mr. REID. Let me express my appreciation to our being able to work through some of these. There are quite a few left to go. The Secretary for the majority just indicated to me that there are some other names that will be cleared later today. So I appreciate this very much. This is going to be a step forward. These are all very important. This will allow these people to get their lives in order. There is no need to talk about why we did not have it done sooner. We did not. We have got it done now, and that is a step forward for the Senate and our country.

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY  
LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Republican leader is recognized.

NOMINATIONS

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, I would say to my good friend, the majority leader, as he knows, this is an agreement we have been prepared to make since last month. I am glad we were able to finally work our way through it and get a significant number of these nominations confirmed.

NEW TAXES

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, it is now official. Top Democrats on Capitol Hill are starting to signal their intention to raise taxes on the middle class. The House majority leader in a speech today warned that in order to do anything about the debt crisis Republicans have been speaking about on the Senate floor in recent weeks, President Obama will have no choice, no choice, but to break his campaign pledge of "no new taxes" for millions of American families.

That is the majority leader in the House of Representatives in a speech today, saying that the President will have no choice but to break his promise of no new taxes for millions of American families.

Respectfully, I think this is a tough argument for the Democratic leadership in the House that will not even

take up the Senate's version of the so-called doc fix legislation for no apparent reason other than the fact that it does not increase the debt.

It is hard to imagine anyone taking advice on fiscal discipline from a party that has spent the last 2½ weeks arguing not about how to pay for the extenders bill that is on the floor or how to use this bill to cut the debt but about how much money to add to the debt in the process of passing it.

Here is another idea Democrats should consider, one that Americans have been proposing loudly and clearly: Stop spending money you do not have. Stop spending money you do not have. The American people do not think our problem is that the government taxes too little. Our problem is that the government taxes too much and that it spends too much and borrows too much. Until Democrats demonstrate even the slightest ability to restrain the recklessness with which they spend America's hard-earned tax dollars, the job creators and the workers of this country are not about to take them seriously on how to lower the national debt.

The American people should not be asked to pay the price for Democrats' recklessness through higher taxes. America faces a debt crisis. Democrats have done nothing whatsoever to show they understand that. Breaking a campaign pledge now will not help; cutting spending will.

I yield the floor.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

MORNING BUSINESS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, there will now be a period of morning business until 12:30 p.m., with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each, with the time equally divided and controlled between the two leaders or their designees, with the majority controlling the first 30 minutes, the Republicans controlling the next 60 minutes, and the majority controlling the next 30 minutes.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Illinois.

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent to speak as in morning business.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

DEFICIT SPENDING AND  
UNEMPLOYMENT

Mr. DURBIN. The minority leader, Senator MCCONNELL, is right. Deficits are important. So are facts. Let's mention a few facts on the floor of the Senate. When was the last time the U.S.

Government ran a surplus? A surplus. Collected more money than it spent? Well, it happened to be in the last year of President Bill Clinton's administration. So when President George W. Bush was elected, President Clinton said: Welcome to Washington. Here is a \$230 billion surplus, and if you follow the spending patterns we have laid out over the next 10 years, you will generate a \$5 trillion surplus in the Treasury—\$230 billion now, plan for a \$5 trillion surplus. At that time the debt of America, the accumulated debt of America, from George Washington through Bill Clinton, all of the debt we had amassed, \$5 trillion.

George W. Bush. Welcome to Washington. A surplus. A plan to increase the surplus. A plan to spend down the national debt. But what happened in 8 years of Republican rule, fiscally conservative Republican rule? I will tell you what happened. The national debt went from \$5 trillion to \$12 trillion.

How do you do that in 8 years? Well, you wage two wars that you do not pay for, and you give tax breaks to the wealthiest people in America, and you have a prescription drug plan that is not paid for as well under Republican Presidents.

The national debt from Bill Clinton, \$5 trillion; to the end of President George W. Bush, \$12 trillion, and a little gift that President George W. Bush left to President Barack Obama as he left office. No, he did not leave him the \$230 billion that he was given as he came into the presidency. No, he handed off to President Obama a \$1.3 trillion deficit. Welcome to Washington, President Obama. And when you take your hand off the Bible at the swearing in, let's mention too that the Bush economic policies have now cost us, that month, January, that month in 2009, 750,000 American jobs. Now we hear from the Republican side of the aisle these pious incantations about our budget deficit.

Well, it is a problem. But let's put the blame where it belongs. When the Republicans had their chance, they took a surplus and turned it into the biggest deficit in the history of the United States. When President Bush had his economic policies in place, we doubled the national debt. When President Bush left office, he left the economy in the worst recession we have had since the Great Depression.

Now come the Republicans and say: We need to cut spending. Well, let's go back and look at another lesson in history. This goes even further back—80 years, the worst economic situation in modern times in America, the Great Depression. I heard about it as a kid. But it was not as if my parents were giving me a history lesson, they were giving me a story about our family, how my mom and dad got married in 1928, had their first baby in 1929, and their second baby in 1931, and tried to raise a family in the Great Depression. Their lives were changed forever. Their view of the world changed forever. My